



City of New Bedford
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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Date: March 29, 2007
For Immediate Release

P R E S S R E L E A S E

3rd Annual Youth Career Expo April 20, 2007 from 11pm-3pm at the Greater New Bedford Career Center

New Bedford, Massachusetts - At a press conference in City Hall today, Mayor Scott W. Lang joined New Directions President Ed Dennehy, and Youth Services Manager, Wendy Andrade, in support of the 3rd Annual Youth Career Expo. This year's expo will take place on Friday, April 20, 2007 from 11am to 3pm at the Greater New Bedford Career Center at 618 Acushnet Avenue.

This event targets young people between the ages of 14 and 21 who are looking for summer jobs, internships, and other summer activities. The expo provides an opportunity for the young people in our city to meet and interview with local employers and community agencies. A number of community programs and employers have already committed to participating in this year's expo. Nelson Hockert-Lotz, owner of several Domino's Pizza parlors is one of the local businesses participating in the event and is looking forward to this year's event.

"We're looking forward to the New Bedford Summer Youth Expo because we have found it one of the best recruiting venues in the SouthCoast. Each of the past two years, we have found exceptional young people to join our junior management program, to replace our junior management team members headed off to college. We have found no better place to meet smart, highly motivated youth than the Summer Youth Expo. The Greater New Bedford Area Career Center does a top-notch job of preparing these young people for interviews, making this an exceptional opportunity for employers seeking youth both for summer jobs, and for the long term," said New Bedford Domino's Pizza franchisee Nelson Hockert-Lotz.

New Directions Youth Services Manager, Wendy Andrade said, "We are very excited about this year's expo. We have some great employers and agencies involved this year and we're looking forward to an exciting and productive day,"

Ed Dennehy made a plea to the areas businesses and community organizations and asked them to give meaningful consideration as to how they might participate in this effort by providing an employment experience for one of our youth. More employers for the Expo are needed, as are financial sponsors, but even if businesses can't participate in the Expo, they should let us know if they are willing to consider hiring youth this summer and we will refer appropriate youth to them. The business community needs to invest in youth now so they can be sure that they have a reliable workforce that will meet their needs in the future.

Mayor Lang emphasized the need for the young people in our city to involve themselves in positive activities during the summer months and the youth expo is an easy way to make the connection with the employers and agencies that are willing to invest in their future.

"The Youth Expo is a great initiative by the City of New Bedford and its partners to help young people connect with summer internships, services and employment opportunities throughout the Greater New Bedford area. I encourage businesses and service organizations to become involved either through sponsorship or by offering employment opportunities to the youth in our city," said Mayor Lang.

More information can be obtained by calling New Directions at (508) 979-1700 or by visiting their website at www.newbedfordcareercenter.org.

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